12/13/78

Dear Michel,

Your letter dated the sixth seems to have gone to Philadelphia first. It did not reach me until today.

I regret that you continue your untruthfulness. And add new childishly transparent falsehoods.

First you tell me that you gave my materials to CBC and "prove" it by giving me a receipt. But the receipt turns out to describe what CBC gave me and not what I gave you. This makes it obvious that you played tricks on CBC as well and not prevaricate. I went into this in the third paragraph of my 11/24.

After what you ultimately sent me, 3 reels of 8mm, I wrote you and told you that the WDSU footage is also missing.

Now you begin like a baby,"I hope that you are now in possession of the W.D.S.U. film I sent you, registered, on November 17." After I told you that you did not sent it to me.

I have been asking myself why you behave so, why you demean yourself so, when it would be so easy to merely return what I trusted you with. The obvious answer is that you no longer have it. So, to whom did you give or sell it? I'll make a guess.

When you came here as the representative of your government and under the apparent auspices of mine I am certain that I cautioned you against the undependable people, some of low character, who abound in the field of my work. While you did not send me the promised transcript of your show for archival purposes it was soon apparent that there was a reason - yours was not a serious study but another cheap sensation with emphasis on showmanship rather than substance. Heavy on Mark Lane. From the phrase you may have heard, "honor among thieves," it defames thieves to call him one. He is a terrible person, as any reading of the current news accounts merely underscores. But shrewd and a real con man.

Lane does not have the WDSU film at all. Or did not. And his copy of the Zapruder film was an inferior one he reproduced despite giving his word that he would not, and he then sold it commercially.

So, when he knows you have an excellent Zapruder print, as good as any but the original, and the WDSU film, what then? It takes no Hercule Poirot.

I have been patient but I have suffered from not having these things. You are also wasting much time for me by this shysterism. Please get and return my property immediately without any more falsehoods that are so far below your intelligence and without any further cheap tricks like your letter of 12/6. I have avoided taking any step that might be unpleasant, particularly because two friendly governments are involved. But this is past the point of tolerance. But your behavior is outrageous, more so after your abuse of my trust.

It is clear that you got cozy with Lane from the deal he made with Jim Jones. It includes using you and your facilities, which I'm sure French TV must cherish. Parts of the text of his proposal have been published here, thus my knowledge. And what made me think of what you really did.

Your offer of substituting super-8 copies of parts of what I loaned you is not an acceptable substitute for the originals. And you still have not referred to the several documents.

I'll be sending copies to CBS and M. Krynen.

It would, I am confident, be much better if you tell the truth immediately and recover what you do not have and get it to me. Not a copy, the actual originals I loaned you. I also know Lane and his methods and I'd best not get anything other than my originals, believe me.

Sincerely,